

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11595 271928Z

60

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 886

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11595

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IN US

SUBJECT: STATESMAN REPORTS "UPSWING" IN INDO-US RELATIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 11524

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY MADRAS FROM
CALCUTTA AUG 26 IS REPEATED

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 2007

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN,US

SUBJ: STATESMAN REPORTS "UPSWING" IN INDO-US RELATIONS

1. STATESMAN AUGUST 26 CARRIES A TWO COLUMN STORY ON INSIDE
PAGE HEADLINED QTE INDO-US TIES APPEAR TO BE ON THE UPSWING AGAIN
UNQTE, SLUGGED QTE FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE NEW DELHI UNQTE.
STORY SAYS: QTE....THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRESENCE LAYL NIGHT AT
AMBASSADOR SAXBE'S DINNER FOR A VISITING US CONGRESSMAN IS
THE SUREST INDICATOR BY FAR OF A WELCOME CHANGE IN THE OFFICIAL
ATTITUDE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO EACH OTHER. THIS WAS ONE OF
MRS. GANDHI'S RARE VISITS TO A DINNER OF THIS KIND WHICH BY
ITSELF INVESTS THE OCCASION WITH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE UNQTE.
PAPER NOTES THAT AMBASSADOR SAXBE HAS DURING PAST WEEKS HELD
TALKS WITH A NUMBER OF SENIOR INDIAN FIGURES AND AMBASSADOR KAUL
HAS QTE ALSO HAD A BUSY SPELL OF MENDING BROKEN FENCES UNQTE
IN WASHINGTON.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 11595 271928Z

2. STORY CONTINUES WITH COMMENT THAT QTE MRS. GANDHI'S GESTURE IN ACCEPTING AMBASSADOR SAXBE'S INVITATION SHOULD HAVE A BOOST TO EFFORTS TO PUT INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS ON AN EVEN KEEL UNQTE. STORY ADDS THAT WHILE INDIA WOULD BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO WELCOME PRESIDENT FORD, OBSERVERS DO NOT SEE WHY HIS NOT BEING ABLE TO VISIT INDIA THIS WINTER SHOULD AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND US. PAPER SAYS (UNIDENTIFIED BUT PRESUMABLY OFFICIAL GOI) SOURCES STILL HOPE THAT PRESIDENT WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT INDIA AS EARLIER PLANNED BUT QTE THEY DO NOT CONSIDER HIS NOT BEING ABLE TO COME SUCH A CALAMITY AS TO CLOUD EFFORTS NOW TO BUILD UP RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES UNQTE.KORN

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